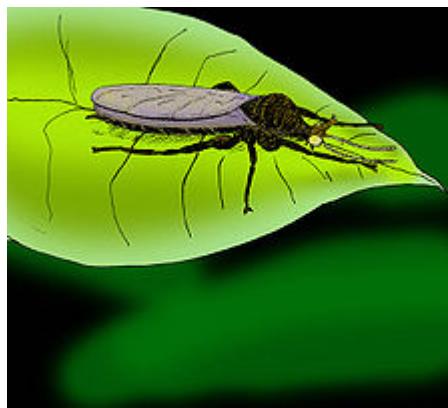


Cascoplecia

Cascoplecia insolitis, commonly known as the **unicorn fly**,^[1] is an extinct dipteran that lived in the Early Cretaceous. The type specimen was found in Burmese amber.^[1] George Poinar, Jr., who described this fossil, coined a new family name for it – **Cascopleciidae**. One of the defining characteristics of *Cascoplecia* is the presence of three ocelli raised on an extended, horn-like protuberance (hence its common name). Its distinctiveness has been questioned by other authors, who suggest that the taxon is simply an aberrant member of the *Bibionidae*.^[2]



reconstruction

doi:10.1016/j.cretres.2009.09.007 (<https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.cretres.2009.09.007>).

2. Thomas Pape, Vladimir Blagoderov & Mikhail B. Mostovski. 2011 Order DIPTERA Linnaeus, 1758. (<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2011/f/zt03148p229.pdf>) In: Zhang, Z.-Q. (Ed.) Animal biodiversity: An outline of higher-level classification and survey of taxonomic richness.

References

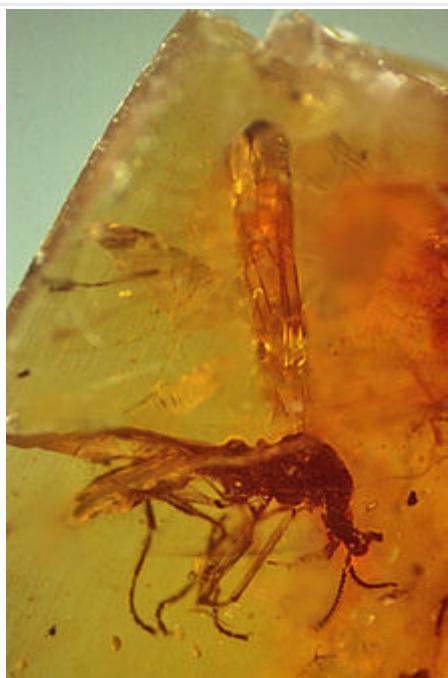
1. Poinar Jr., George (2010). "Cascoplecia insolitis (Diptera: Cascopleciidae), a new family, genus, and species of flower-visiting, unicorn fly (Bibionomorpha) in Early Cretaceous Burmese amber". *Cretaceous Research*. 31 (1): 71–76.

Cascoplecia

Temporal range:

Late Aptian to Early Cenomanian

PreЄ Є OS D C P T J K PgN



holotype fossil

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Insecta

Order: Diptera

Infraorder: Bibionomorpha

Family: † **Cascopleciidae**
Poinar Jr., 2010

Genus: †**Cascoplecia**
Poinar Jr., 2010

Species: †*C. insolitis*

Binomial name

†***Cascoplecia insolitis***

Poinar Jr., 2010

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